



## **Braille Readers Are Leaders**

Missouri School for the Blind (MSB) encourages participation in this Braille reading contest sponsored by the National Federation of the Blind (NFB) for Braille students throughout the nation. The purpose of the annual contest is to encourage school-age children who are blind or visually impaired to read more Braille and to become good Braille readers. NFB presents awards to the national winners who have read the most Braille pages for the contest. For more information on this national program, click here: [Braille Readers Are Leaders](#).

MSB has an organized Braille Readers Are Leaders team consisting of the Braille teacher and the school librarian. Braille-readers at MSB are encouraged to keep reading more Braille through a series of after-school meetings in the library involving Braille-reading activities and treats. There is usually an annual theme around which many of the activities are centered. Guest speakers are invited to many of the after-school parties to talk to the students about the importance of Braille in their lives. Holiday carols are often sung using a Braille songbook at a December party. Louis Braille's birthday is always celebrated with a birthday cake at the first meeting in January. MSB also awards cash prizes to students at our school who come in 1st & 2nd place and most improved in each grade level category, as well as a small incentive to all students who participate. In addition, students receive certificates from the school in both print and Braille.

Missouri School for the Blind works closely with NFB of Missouri, which sponsors a "Celebration of Braille" party for all students at the school who participated in the contest.